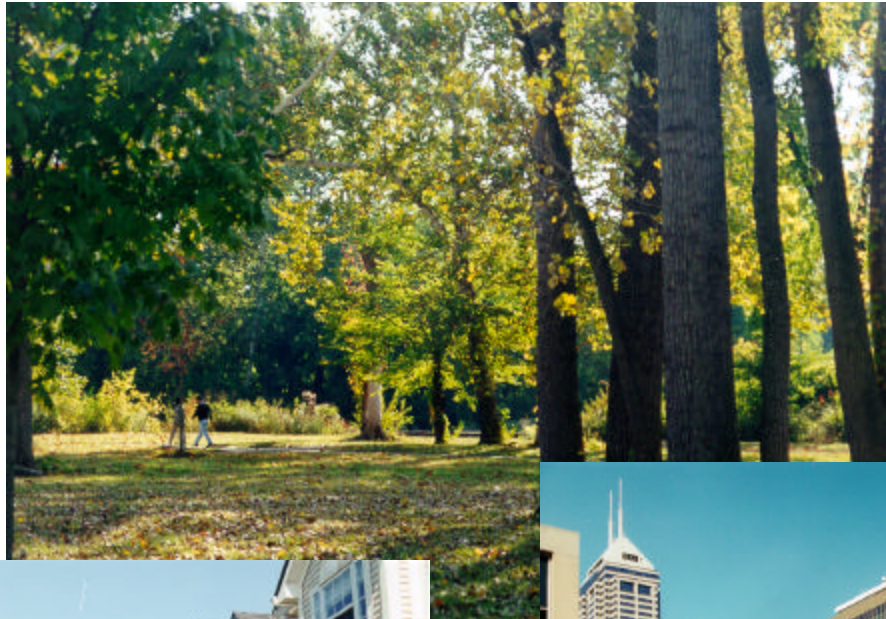
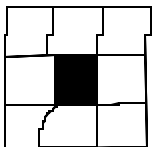


Facilities & Services Needs Assessment: Center Township



Fall Creek Trail, (top) Ransom Place Conservation District (left) and Downtown (right).



1999

Department of Metropolitan Development
Division of Planning

INDIANAPOLIS-MARION COUNTY

Stephen Goldsmith, Mayor

CITY-COUNTY COUNCIL

Elwood Black (*District #6*)

Dr. Phillip Borst (*District #25*)

Rozelle Boyd (*District #11*)

Maggie Brents (*District #16*)

Carlton Curry (*at large*)

Ron Franklin (*at large*)

Jeff Golc (*District #17*)

Monroe Gray, Jr. (*District #9*)

Tommie Jones (*District #10*)

W. Tobin McClamroch (*at large*)

Robert Massie (*District #20*)

Marilyn Moores (*at large*)

Mary Moriarty Adams (*District #15*)

Frank T. Short (*District #21*)

David Smith (*District #23*)

Steve Talley (*District #14*)

Susan Williams (*District #22*)

METROPOLITAN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

John S. Beeman

Lance Bundles

Lillian Charleston

James Curtis, Sr.

Gene Hendricks

Walter Niemczura

Steve Schaefer

Robert Smith

Randolph Snyder

DEPARTMENT OF METROPOLITAN DEVELOPMENT

Eugene Lausch, *Director*

Suzette Foster, *Center Township Administrator*

David Kingen, *Center Township Administrator*

DIVISION OF PLANNING

Thomas Bartlett, *Administrator*

Keith Holdsworth, *Principal Planner*

Dennis Slaughter, *Senior Planner*

Gina Bush Hayes, *Planner*

Kevin Gross, *Planning Intern*

PARTICIPANTS

Lt. Donald Bender, *Indianapolis Police Dept.*

Major Mike Bosley, *Indianapolis Police Dept.*

Elizabeth Brown, *YWCA*

Karen S. Cohen, *Indianapolis-Marion Co.*

Public Library

Chuck Corbin, *Community Centers of*

Indianapolis

Doug Elwell, *Marion County Health and*

Hospital Corp.

Dennis Hawkins, *Indianapolis Police Dept.*

Suzy Heilman, *Indianapolis-Marion Co. Public*

Library

Jacquelyn Nytes, *Indianapolis-Marion Co.*

Public Library

Bill Reardon, *Indianapolis Police Dept.*

Matt Steward, *Indianapolis Police Dept.*

David Vaprin, *Indianapolis-Marion Co. Public*

Library

David Weinschrott, *United Way*

Tia Jah Wynne, *Indianapolis-Marion Co. Public*

Library

FACILITIES & SERVICES NEEDS ASSESSMENT: CENTER TOWNSHIP

The Facilities and Services Needs Assessment is a master list of facilities and services with supporting maps and figures. This is not a plan that shows what facility or service should be located where. It is an assessment that looks at:

- current supply of the township's facilities and services,
- current demand for facilities and services,
- likely future levels of demand based on projected population, and
- a comparison of supply and demand to determine need.

The existing comprehensive land use plan for Center Township is a composite of various sub-area and corridor plans. This Assessment is not an update of the land use plan; it will not make land use recommendations for specific parcels of land. However, the information contained in this assessment will provide background information that will be critical to the next comprehensive land use plan update.

Issues Explored

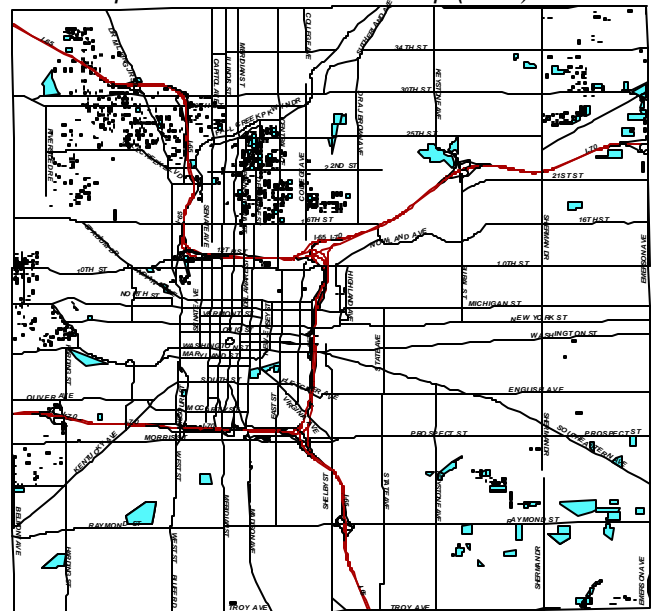
Population scenarios. Many service providers allocate their services based on the number of persons to be served or upon some other demographic factor such as age or income. To be able to make the best allocations, good demographic projections are needed.

Supply of facilities and services. A simple formula for determining the need for additional facilities and services is the demand minus the supply equals the unmet need ($\text{Demand} - \text{Supply} = \text{Need}$). The various service providers will have

different ways of measuring the first part of the equation: supply. It may be by number of facilities, by acres, by number of staff persons or by some other method. Determination of current supply is one of the most important pieces of background information to be collected.

Demand for facilities and services. Demand is the second part of the above equation. Like facility supply, demand can be measured in a variety of ways and is a vital part of the assessment. The assessment will determine and report on both the current demand and projected future demand.

Undeveloped Land in Center Township (1997)



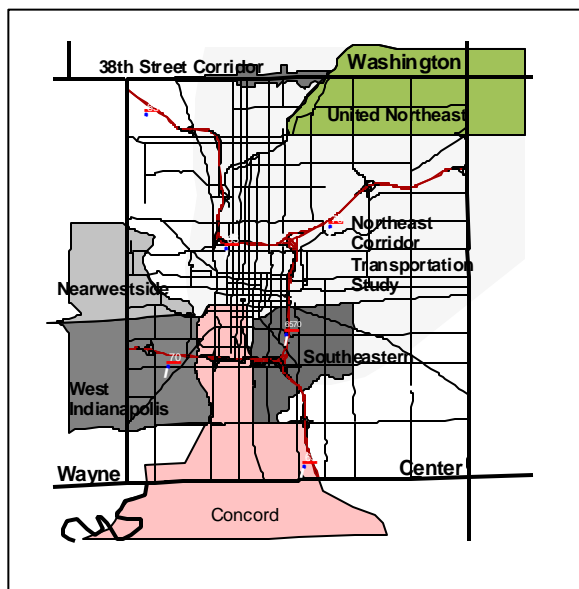
BACKGROUND RESEARCH

Summary of Existing Plans

The following discussion is a summary of adopted plans for parts of Center Township. These plans by the City of Indianapolis were adopted from 1994 to the present. Earlier plans still in effect are listed at the end of this report. The plans evaluated are the:

- 38th Street Corridor Design Charette
- Concord Community Plan
- Nearwestside Housing Improvement and Neighborhood Plan
- Southeastern Housing Improvement and Neighborhood Improvement Plan
- United Northeast Plan
- West Indianapolis Neighborhood Plan
- Indianapolis Thoroughfare Plan
- Major Investment Study Northeast Corridor Transportation (ConNECTIONS)
- Indianapolis Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian System Plan
- Comprehensive Rail Study
- 1999 Indianapolis-Marion County Comprehensive Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan
- Indianapolis Greenways Plan

Recent Center Township Plans



38th Street Corridor Design Charrette 1998

The north boundary of Center Township is 38th Street. A design charrette is an intensive design and planning effort intended to generate a variety of design solutions. This process focused on 38th Street from Fall Creek to the Indianapolis Art Museum. That is the same corridor area studied in greater detail in 1985. Six districts within the study area were identified for detailed recommendations. The charrette concluded with overall design proposals and proposals for “thematic zones.”

Concord Community Plan (1999)

This pending plan is scheduled for adoption in late 1999. The plan updates a 1974 plan for a smaller area and also a segment of the 1990-2010 Regional Center Plan. Part of the new study area extends into Perry Township. Boundaries of the neighborhood are Washington Street on the north, White River on the west, Pennsylvania St. and Madison Ave. on the east down to Raymond St., then southeast along I-65 then to Hanna Ave. on the south. Working with the Concord Community Development Corporation, the City of Indianapolis planning staff completed a strengths and needs assessment study. A working group then formed to develop goals, strategies and specific actions for the future neighborhood revitalization. A Land Use and Zoning Plan was developed to address environmental concerns, development of vacant sites and buildings and areas in transition.

Nearwestside Housing Improvement and Neighborhood Plan (1994)

The study area of this plan is located west of White River, South of 16th St., east of Tibbs Ave. and north of Conrail. The area between the Belt Railroad and White River is also in the Regional Center Plan. The area west of Belmont St. is in Wayne Township, which is approximately two-thirds of the project area. The plan was developed in conjunction with the Indianapolis Neighborhood Housing Partnership. The main strategy for this

plan is the identification of target areas within the neighborhood in which to focus housing improvements.

The plan recommendations provide a strategy that allows the public and private sectors to undertake structural improvements as well as in-fill construction opportunities. The plan recommends the careful selection of targeted areas for strategic and concentrated rehabilitation efforts. Strong organization within the neighborhood is heavily stressed.

The plan recommends features such as Community Development Corporation (CDC) acquisitions, Indianapolis Neighborhood Housing Partnership (INHP) loan pool programs, and INHP homeowner training programs. Four target areas were identified for detailed five-year action strategies during 1994-98. No parcel specific zoning changes were recommended. The Moorefield Rail Yard was recommended for redevelopment.

Southeastern Housing Improvement and Neighborhood Improvement Plan (1994)

This study area is southeast of the downtown, including Fletcher Place and Fountain Square. The plan amends a 1980 land use plan for the area. Five areas were targeted for revitalization strategies during 1994-98, with an emphasis on housing improvements. The neighborhood plan uses these goals as a basis for providing strategies and specific action steps to be taken.

United Northeast Area Plan(1998)

This study area includes parts of Center, Lawrence, Warren and Washington Townships. The section in Center Township is bounded by 30th St. on the south, Emerson Ave. on the east, 38th St. on the north and Fall Creek on the west. The plan updates previous plans for Forest Manor, Orchard-Keystone and Meadows-Fall Creek. The

plan features an extensive neighborhood interview survey covering general community assets and needs, housing, health and human services. Land use and building conditions were surveyed. Recommendations for alternate zoning for the Mozel Sanders Homes / Timberidge Apartments and the Fall Creek area. The plan also contained a number of land use recommendations including the revitalization of commercial areas, promotion of in-fill development, housing rehabilitation and land assembly for redevelopment.

West Indianapolis Neighborhood Plan (1996)

The study area of this plan covers part of Center and Wayne Townships. The section in Center Township is bounded by the Conrail railroad tracks to the north, White River to the east, Raymond Street to the south, and South Belmont Avenue to the west.

The plan was created to attempt to mitigate or remove liabilities that were outlined by the community and to maintain or enhance the assets. Liabilities included condition of buildings and infrastructure while assets included such things as community services, health care, and safety. The plan outlines various goals for the community.

The main strategy for this plan is the identification of target areas within the neighborhood in which to focus housing improvements. The recommendations from the plan provide a strategy that allows the public and private sectors to undertake structural improvements as well as infill construction opportunities. The plan recommends the careful selection of targeted areas for strategic and concentrated rehabilitation efforts. Strong organization within the neighborhood is heavily stressed. The plan recommends Community Development Corporation (CDC) acquisitions, Indianapolis Neighborhood Housing Partnership (INHP) loan pool programs, and INHP homeowner training programs.

The Indianapolis Thoroughfare Plan (1999)

The Thoroughfare Plan recommends as a priority improvement a connection of two sections of 21st Street / Bloyd Ave. under I-70. A widening improvement of Harding Street from Raymond Street to Troy Avenue is under construction in 1999.

Major Investment Study Northeast Corridor Transportation (ConNECTions)

The northeastern quadrant of Center Township is included in a larger transportation study to mitigate traffic congestion. This study is now exploring various options to improve traffic conditions, air quality, personal mobility and the overall quality of life. Completion of the study is expected by mid-2000.

Indianapolis Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian System Plan (1999)

Work has been completed for special study areas of two segments located in Center Township. The linear East Route uses the Michigan St./ New York St. corridor, Wallace St. and Washington St. The linear West Route uses the Michigan St./ New York St. corridor from the downtown to Belmont St.

1995 Comprehensive Rail Study

This study conducted an inventory and evaluation of the existing rail system in Indianapolis. The study examined rail network characteristics, operation and usage. Additionally the study projected possible future developments and identified corridors with preservation potential. Possible funding sources were also cataloged. Center Township contains 17 rail segments and the Pine Switching Yard.

Pathways to the Future - 1999 Indianapolis-Marion County Comprehensive Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan

Center Township contains an extensive system of public recreational facilities. However, specific needs are not being met throughout the entire township. Using newly adopted park standards it has been determined that Center Township has a sufficient quantity of Neighborhood Parks but with some areas under served. The plan also determined that the township needs six Community Parks. There is also a deficiency in Regional Parks, but this shortage could be solved with the inclusion of White River State Park in the inventory.

The plan does not recommend specific locations to remedy these park shortages. Facility enhancements and programming improvements in the plan include ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) compliance for all parks and programs. The plan also includes increased senior activities and all-age special needs activities, and youth and teen oriented activities and locations. A canine companion zone is also planned.

Indianapolis Greenways Plan (1994)

The Indianapolis Greenways Plan describes the community's vision for an interconnected regional network of open space. Greenways contribute to service and facility levels by providing opportunities for recreation, fitness, and conservation. The seven greenway segments located in Center Township are summarized below. An update of the plan is being prepared in late 1999.

Pogues Run (Emerson Ave. to New York St.)

This creekside greenway has approximately 5 miles located in Center Township. Areas upstream from Brookside Park and downstream from Spades Park are not yet developed for public access and use. A city flood control project is now underway along the creek. Two storm water detention basins are planned. The Rural Street basin will be constructed in Brookside Park.

The Emerson Basin will be constructed north of 21st St., west of Emerson Ave. and south of I-70. The Rural Street to Brookside Park trail segment is currently in the planning stage.

Fall Creek Of approximately 18.4 total miles, this greenway has 6 miles located in Center Township (38th St. to White River). A demonstration trail from Delaware St. to Central Ave. was opened in 1997. A segment from 30th St. to Fort Harrison State Park had design completion in April 1999. Construction of the trail portion from 30th St. to Keystone Ave. is planned for 2000.

Central Canal Towpath Approximately one mile of this trail is located in Center Twp., running from 38th St. south to 30th St.

White River (38th St. to Troy Avenue) The segment in Center Township runs approximately 9.25 miles. The Central White River Trail from 16th St. to Fall Creek was opened in June 1999. The segment from 16th St. to 38th St. is scheduled for opening in 1999.

Pleasant Run (Emerson Ave. to White River) Approximately 6.45 miles of this creek are located in Center Township. A segment from Garfield Park to Ellenberger Park was opened in 1998.

Monon Trail A short segment south of 38th St. south to Fall Creek has been developed as part of Phase 2 & 3, and was opened in 1998. A segment from 17th St. to 10th St. is planned for completion in 2001.

DEVELOPMENT OF POPULATION SCENARIOS

Declining Population

Center Township is unique among Marion County's nine townships in many ways. Population trends are clearly different than other townships. According to US Census data the population declined from 333,351 in 1960 to 182,140 in 1990, a 45.3% decrease. This loss of 151,211 persons occurred during a period in which the Marion County population increased by 98,991 persons, a 14.1% increase.

Like other townships, Center Township has experienced reductions in household size. In 1970 Center Township's average household size was 2.98 persons. This dropped to 2.69 persons per household in 1980 and dropped again in 1990 to 2.52 persons per household. This trend is expected to continue in future years due to the longevity of older persons living alone, smaller family sizes and other factors that result in smaller average households than in the past.

Reduction in Housing Stock

Between 1960 and 1990 Center Township's housing stock (number of housing units) declined from 106,258 to 81,667 units, a 23.1% decline. Population decreased at a greater rate than the decreases in housing stock. From 1960 to 1990 housing units in all Marion County increased by 137,605 units, a 39.3 % increase. In 1960 Center Township accounted for 47.9% of total Marion County population. By 1990 the township accounted for only 22.8% of county population.

During this thirty-year period Center Township's housing stock was reduced by the construction of

the interstate highway system, expansions of college and hospital campuses and various urban renewal and development projects. Scattered demolitions have also occurred due to other road and business expansions, code enforcement and changes in land use.

From 1990 to 1998 the township experienced a net reduction of 1,042 housing units. 1,357 new dwelling units were constructed while 2,449 dwelling units were demolished. Demolition of housing units slowed during the 1990's compared to previous decades.

Housing Occupancy

Center Township has experienced lower residential occupancy rates than the whole of Marion County. In 1980 the county had 92.1% of housing units occupied while Center Township had 87.5% of units occupied. In 1990 the county had 91.4% of housing units occupied while Center Township had 86.0% of units occupied.

Projected Decline and Rebound

While the rest of Marion County added population, Center Township had a decrease in each decade from 1960 to 1990. The Division of Planning projected in 1995 that Center Township population will continue to decline until 2010. At that point the population was estimated to bottom-out at 155,389. It was assumed that out-migration would then be exceeded by natural increase. The result would be a modest annual increase.

Center Township has many potential areas in which population could rebound. Between 1990 and 1998, 1,357 new housing units were constructed in a variety of forms. Some buildings that formerly housed institutional, commercial and industrial uses have been converted to residential

uses. Vacant lots have attracted new single family houses and multi-family units. During this same decade many neighborhoods have become much more attractive to homebuyers and renters. Existing housing has been remodeled and improved.

These positive trends can be expected to continue in the coming decade. Public and private actions can contribute to greater stability in housing stock as well as stimulating new construction. Public policy is not likely affect household size, which is not expected to increase.

Cohort Method

1995 the Division of Planning projected 2020 Center Township population using the cohort method. "During the 1980's births exceeded deaths by 2 to 1. Over the next thirty years births are projected to decrease substantially and deaths to decrease steadily, but at a slightly lower rate than births. Migration patterns in the 1980's continued a lengthy trend of heavy out migration. The trend of out migration is projected to continue over the next thirty years, tending toward zero in 2020. Natural increase in the population is projected to eventually offset a decline in out migration starting in 2010." ¹

This method suggests that a long trend of population decline may stabilize and even reverse. This study does not indicate what areas within the township are most likely to stabilize or rebound.

Land Use Method

Another method of 2020 population projections is based on land use. This method is based on the percent change in population using recent census figures, housing permits and demolition and comprehensive plan recommendations. The 2020 population under this method is projected to be 157,200.

Build-Out Method

The third population projection in this needs assessment is based on the concept of "build-out."

This method reflects the population resulting from full land development based on the 1984 Center Township Comprehensive Land Use Plan and its amendments.

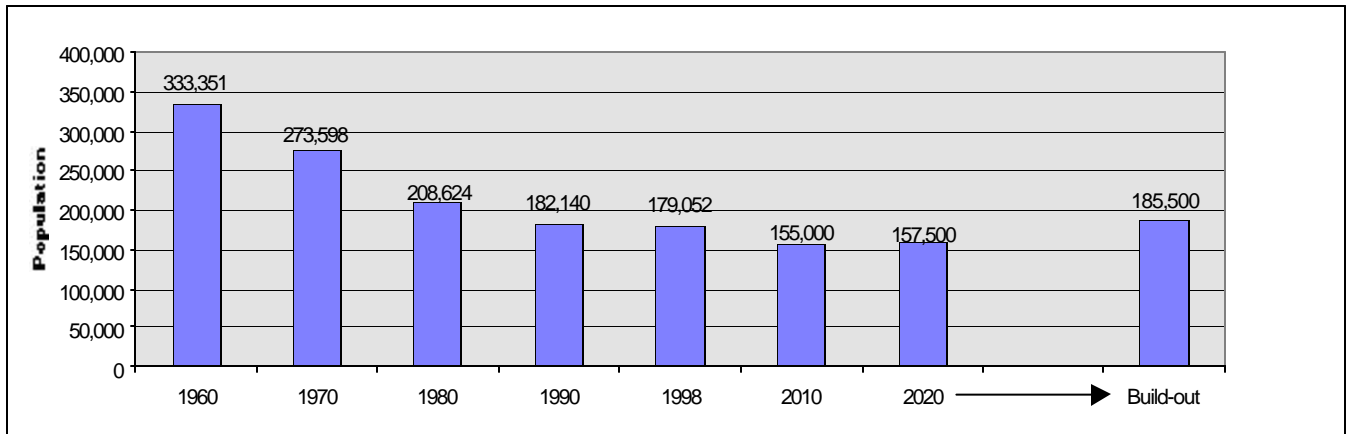
All vacant land recommended for residential development would be developed at the densities of the land use plan. The vacant land estimate does not include areas unsuitable for development such as right of way. Household size is projected to remain constant at the 1990 level of 2.52 persons. Vacant land in this projection includes land that has never been developed and vacant land created by demolition of residential structures. This combination represents potential residential growth areas in Center Township.

This assessment projects a build-out population of 185,500 at an unspecified date. Determining when full build-out might occur is difficult due to the number of variables. The economy, changing demographics, and provision of roads, sewers, water and other infrastructure all have a major impact on rate of development.

Center Township has already experienced a "build-out" where little land vacant land remained, household size was higher and residential density may have averaged much higher than in recent years. Even if much of the vacant land is re-occupied, lower household size and lower average densities will tend to prevent population from returning to the higher levels of the 1940 and 1950's.

Modern local code provisions such minimum yard areas and off-street parking tend to reduce densities of redevelopment sites. Market forces also work against a widespread pattern of high residential densities.

Historic and Projected Population for Center Township. (Division of Planning, 1999)



Key

Center Township Populations from US Census of Population 1960, 1970, 1980 and 1990

1998 estimate based on building permits and demolitions

2010 and 2020 projections from cohort method

"Build-out" based on estimates of current vacant land to be developed at the residential densities recommended in the 1984 Land Use Plan. This additional housing would contain 2.52 persons per dwelling unit.

¹Marion County, Indiana 1995 to 2020 Population Projections-1995 Series, City of Indianapolis, Department of Metropolitan Development, Planning Division

EXPLORATION OF STANDARDS FOR SERVICES AND FACILITIES

Local, state and national sources were researched to determine what standards currently exist for the provision of services and facilities. These standards were then applied to Center Township as shown in the charts on the following pages.

Planning standards should not be the only method used for devising the demand for services and facilities in a community. Each community has distinctive needs that should be kept in mind throughout the planning process. Standards do not account for the “diverse conditions, populations, and values of Urban America.” (Seymour Gold, *Recreation Planning and Design*) They can be useful guidelines to follow when developing future plans, but only when the inherent limitations of standards are understood.

The use of standards to determine need for services and facilities has limitations. One limitation is the age of the standard and data being used. Standards can become outdated as technology and people’s preferences change over time.

Typically standards are not localized. Most standards are set at a national level and do not take into account factors that may affect the use of the standard at a local level.

The source of a standard can be a consideration. If a standard is issued from an organization that would benefit from the increased need of a service, the standard may be artificially high.

Some standards are not well defined. They can be construed to mean different things. For example, the standard for Emergency Medical Services requires a certain number of vehicles per 1,000

population. However the type of vehicles is not defined. Whether the standard is for ambulances only, or a combination of ambulances, paramedic vehicles, and extraction vehicles, is not specified. This can cause a problem when defining what is really needed in an area.

Marion County’s townships are not walled-in communities that must provide all of their own services and facilities. Consumers of services and facilities are able to easily travel across township boundaries to meet many of their needs. Center Township residents frequently go outside the township to seek services and facilities while Center Township facilities frequently serve persons from outside the township. Townships have been used for the Needs Assessments because in Marion County the townships are readily known geographic units and provide an easy way to think about issues that may be variable across the county.

Localization

Most of the above facility and service standards are nationally based. They should be considered guides. The uniqueness of every town, city and county, with their differing socioeconomic, climatic, geographic and cultural characteristics, makes it undesirable to apply all standards in the same manner in every community. In this assessment, localization of the standards was attempted through community surveys and public meetings.

Survey IUPUI’s Polis Center and Public Opinion Laboratory conducted a community survey for the Division of Planning. The survey was done by telephone to a random selection of 1200 Marion County households and 600 Marion County businesses. The residential survey was done in a manner to be statistically significant at the township and county levels.

The business survey did not ask as many questions as the residential survey and is statistically significant only at the county level. Both surveys are accurate within five percentage points. Highlights of the survey results are shown in the table below.

Center Township residents expressed more satisfaction with their library services or facilities than did Marion County residents as a whole. Center Township residents also rated highly in-patient medical care, parks and fire services.

Township residents were less satisfied than other Marion County residents with schools, law enforcement, and emergency room care and outpatient medical care.

More than half of Center Township's respondents judged youth services, affordable housing and elderly housing as not adequate.

Center Township residents were less satisfied than were Marion County residents for those three categories. A majority of Marion County residents also rated youth services as not adequate.

RESIDENTIAL SURVEY RESULTS		
	Percent rating this service or facility as excellent or good	
	Center Township	Marion County
In-patient Medical Care	77.4	82.0
Libraries	80.5	76.1
Parks	61.2	63.3
Fire Services	86.7	91% (businesses 89%)
	Percent rating this service or facility as fair or poor	
Schools	50.2	29.0
Law Enforcement	45.0	30.3
Emergency Room Care	41.7	29.4
Outpatient Medical Care	28.7	19.6
	Percent rating the provision of this service or facility as not adequate	
Youth Services	59.4	53.9
Affordable Housing	54.0	42.8 (businesses 59%)
Elderly Housing	57.0	45%
Survey of Marion County Residents and Businesses on Public Facility Needs. The Polis Center. 1999.		

Focus Group Meetings

Two meetings were held with key facility and service providers to discuss the current adequacies and their plans to meet the future needs. The first meeting was with countywide and multi-township facility and service providers. Held on September 23, 1999, this meeting focused on the four townships where needs assessment studies were being concurrently conducted: Wayne, Center, Perry and Washington.

The meeting attendees envisioned co-location of facilities as an important trend. However the lack of neighborhood schools in eastern Wayne Township limits co-location opportunities in that area. Examples of co-location possibilities that would greatly enhance services delivery would be youth and senior activities held in schools and housing complexes, electronic library services that can go into almost any other facility, and health care services located in neighborhood schools.

Attendees saw a need to move away from centralized provision of services and toward providing services in a large number of locations that are easily accessible to all people regardless of age, disability, work hours or lack of transportation.

A second meeting was held on October 12, 1999. This meeting was for Center Township service and facility providers. Participants noted the need for more youth services, including structured after school programs and summer programs with adult supervision. It was also noted that, as a result of recent welfare reforms, the "working poor" often lack

medical insurance. The working poor also need affordable childcare, including childcare after school hours. These populations also need reliable and convenient public transportation.

Another observation was that neighborhood health care clinics need better coordination so that resources were more evenly distributed.

Several participants noted that housing conditions suffer from chronic nuisances in residential areas. Participants noted problems with absentee landlords, vacant and deteriorating housing, and yard and alley trash. Each of these conditions contributes to neighborhood decline. It was noted that some rental property owners simply could not afford to properly maintain the units they own.

Related concerns were expressed for declining retail services in the inner city. It was suggested that local tax incentives be used to encourage rehabilitation of shopping areas within older neighborhoods. Participants explained the lack of basic retail services such as pharmacies and grocery stores when compared to other townships.

Comments were also received about the perceptions of residents about Indianapolis Public Schools (IPS). Most participants acknowledged concerns for IPS's competitiveness with out-lying school districts. Several noted that IPS successes are not well publicized and this affects housing decisions of many people. The librarians noted the need for more computers and after school tutoring for school age children.

FACILITIES AND SERVICES ASSESSED

The following charts and commentary are the results of comparing supply and demand of facilities and services. National, state and local standards have been applied to the current and projected population to determine the

demand for facilities and services now, in 2020, and at build-out. The charts show the current supply of services and facilities and then compares demand and supply to find need.

EDUCATION							
	Standard (#/pupils)	Current Township Demand (based on standards for # pupils in Center Township)	Current Township Supply schools (Public and private*)	Current Township Status +/-	Township Demand in 2020 (157,200 people)	Township Demand at Build-out (185,500 people)	Source of Standard
K-5 classrooms	1 classroom / 24 students	632	1016* classrooms	+384	555	656	A
Middle School classrooms**	1 classroom / 25 students	239	445* classrooms	+206	194	239	A
High School classrooms	1 / 26 classrooms	270	312 classrooms	+42	149	176	A
K-5 staff	1 staff person / 22 students	690	2,492	+1802	605	714	B
Middle school staff	1 staff persons/20 students	299	686*	+387	253	299	B
High School staff	1 staff person /19 students	238	546	+313	204	241	B
K-5 sites (acres) **	7 acres + 1 acre/100 pupils over 200	157	103 acres	-54	138 acres	162 acres	C
Middle school sites **	15 acres + 1 acre/100 pupils over 450	70	43 acres	-27	61 acres	70 acres	C
Senior High sites **	20 acres + 1 acre/100 pupils over 600	58	105 acres	+47	59 acres	60 acres	C
Library book Stock	Varies with population	358,048	897,111	+539,063	314,400	371,100	D
Source of Standard: A Indianapolis Public Schools B <i>Impact of Growth</i> by L.W. Canter et al C Indiana State Board of Education School Facility Guidelines D <i>Practical Administration of Public Libraries</i> by J.L Wheeler and Herbert Goldhor * Private schools reported for K-8, with no middle schools ** Not reported for private schools							

Education

The current trend in education planning is to use performance standards as the primary service level measurement tool. The United States Department of Education emphasizes performance statistics to provide a picture of how well local education systems are doing. Examples of this type of measurement are student attendance, academic achievement and graduation rates. Although these are worthy tools, they do not measure resource requirements, which is what the above table attempts to do.

Center Township school enrollments and facilities are not easily evaluated in terms of state or national standards. Public and private high schools, for example, serve students from outside the township. Facilities outside the township serve students from Center Township for attendance districts and through desegregation busing. Such factors contribute to an apparent oversupply of facilities, staff and sites based on township populations. While the Indianapolis Public Schools have experienced declining enrollment in for many years, the school system has initiated the reopening of the vacant Howe High School for use as a middle school. Recent statewide interest in full day kindergarten could also affect facility utilization.

Private schools are generally church-related and share their facilities with other church operations. For this reason site data were not tabulated for private schools.

The Indianapolis-Marion County Public Library (IMCPL) has divided the entire county into library districts. Center Township is well served by libraries located within the township and nearby in adjoining townships. The Central Library and five branches are located in Center Township. Nine other branches are located outside the township but serve patrons in Center Township. The Library Services Center-Outreach Services Center is also located in Center Township and serves the entire Indianapolis-Marion County Public Library service area. The Central Library serves as a neighborhood library for downtown residents as well as the resource and reference library for the entire system.

The IMCPL Facilities Master Plan 1996-2004 calls for replacement buildings for three branches that serve Center Township: Broadway, Brown and Emerson. The Central Library is planned to have upgraded building systems, additional public space, collection space and increased parking. Approximately 26% of area of the City of Beech Grove is located in Center Township. Beech Grove residents have their own city public library.

Library Services

PARKS AND RECREATION							
	Standard (#/persons)	Current Township Demand (179,024 people)	Current Township Supply parks and schools**	Current Township Status +/-	Township Demand in 2020 (157,200 people)	Township Demand at Build-out (185,500 people)	Source of Standard
Neighborhood Parks	1.3 acres /1000	232.7 acres	354.76	+122.02	204	241	E
Community Parks	6 acres /1000	1074 acres	382.55	-691.45	943	1113	E
Regional Parks	10 acres /1000	1790 acres	310.49*	-1479.51	1572	1855	E
Playgrounds**	1 playground /2500 population	72	129	+57	63	74	E
Outdoor basketball courts**	1 court /5000	36	74	+38	31	37	E
Tennis courts**	1 court /2000	90	81	-9	79	93	E
Baseball diamonds**	1 diamond /5000	36	44	+8	31	37	E
Football fields**	1 field /20,000	9	37	+26	8	9	E
Soccer Fields**	1 field /10,000	18	19	+1	16	19	E
Softball diamonds**	1 diamond /5000	36	83	+47	31	37	E
Golf course	9 holes/ 25,000	7 - 9 holes or 63 holes	45	-18	6.3 x 9 holes = 54 holes	7.42 X 9 holes = 63 holes	E
Outdoor swimming pools	1 pool /20,000	9	7	-2	8	9.27	E
Picnic shelters	1 shelter /5000	36	35	-1	31	37	E
Trails	.15 mile/ 1000	26.8	9.75	-17.05	-23.58	-27.83	E
Recreation centers	1 center /50,000	4	9	+5	3	3.71	E
Cemetery acreage	1 acre/587	305	510	+205	268	316	F
Source of Standard: E Indianapolis Parks and Recreation F Current county level of service * Represents the portion of Riverside Regional Park within Center Township. The remainder of the park is in Wayne Township. **Indianapolis Public Schools recreation facilities include playgrounds, outdoor basketball, tennis courts, baseball diamonds, football fields, soccer fields and softball diamonds. Facilities totals include IPS Inventory -1995.							

Parks and Recreation Facilities

Certain facilities reported in the park and recreation chart include a combination of facilities

provided at city parks and public schools in Center Township. Not all facilities

on public school property may be available to the general public. Facilities on private property, such as churches and private schools, may be open to the public but are not reported in the above table. Youth athletic leagues will frequently have needs in excess of the standards shown above.

A range of park types is needed to fulfill an area's park and recreation needs. In Center Township there is adequate neighborhood park acreage but a deficit in community parks and regional parks, according to parks department standards. Community parks and especially neighborhood parks need to be scattered throughout the township in order to provide accessible recreation to all citizens.

Center Township park and recreation deficiencies include the amount of tennis courts, golf courses, soccer fields, picnic shelters, trails and outdoor swimming pools. Other facilities that met or exceeded parks department standards include playgrounds, baseball and softball diamonds, outdoor basketball courts, football fields and recreation centers.

Cemeteries

Six cemeteries are located in Center Township, containing approximately 510 acres. With the exception of Crown Hill Cemetery, the cemeteries are located in the southern part of the township.

MEDICAL							
	Standard (#/persons)	Current Township Demand (179,024 people)	Current Township Supply	Current Township Status +/-	Township Demand in 2020 (157,200 people)	Township Need at Build-out (185,500 people)	Source of Standard
Physicians	1 physician /3500	51.15	899	+848	45	53	G
Dentists	1 dentist /5000	35.80	62	+26.2	31	37	G
Mental Health Personnel	1 professional /2000	89.51	30	-59.51	79	93	B
Hospital Beds	1 bed/250	716	3,130	+2,414	629	742	B
Source of Standard: B <i>Impact of Growth</i> by L. W. Canter et al G Indiana Department of Health							

Medical Care

An apparent oversupply of physicians and hospital beds in Center Township reflects the history of the township as the original City of Indianapolis. Most of the city's hospitals were established in the central city. These locations have continuing roles as major healthcare institutions. By tabulating the physicians serving these hospitals or those

maintaining offices nearby, Center Township appears to have an unusually high amount of physicians.

Medical professionals and hospitals in Center Township serve township residents and the entire metropolitan area and the central Indiana region. The mere presence of a large number of physicians

in the township does not indicate the adequacy of medical care for the township.

The availability of mental health personnel, by contrast, appears to be low for Center Township.

Practitioners identified as mental health professionals, marriage and family

counselors and psychologists are combined for this category. It may be more appropriate to evaluate licensed mental health professionals whose principal practice location is in Marion County. A 1995 study by the Indiana State Department of Health reported that Marion County contained 323 Certified Marriage and Family Therapists (CMFT). This report produces a population to

CMFT ratio of 2,516:1. Certified Clinical Social Workers in the county totaled 892 with population to professional ratio of 911:1. Licensed psychologists in Marion County totaled 231, producing a ratio of population to psychologists of 3,519:1. Data were only available for county units and not on a township level.

SAFETY							
	Standard (#/persons)	Current Township Demand (179,024 persons)	Current Township Supply	Current Township Status +/-	Township Demand in 2020 (157,200 persons)	Township Need at Build-out (185,500 persons)	Source of Standard
Fire & EMS Personnel	1.65 full- time/1000 pop.	295 staff	512	+217	259	306	L
EMS Vehicles	1 vehicle/1.5 mile radius	16 vehicles	28	+12	16 vehicles	16 vehicles	J
Fire Vehicles	1 engine /1.5 radius / 1 ladder/2.5 mile radius	16 engines & 11 ladder trucks	43 total	+16	16 vehicles	16 vehicles	J
Fire Facilities	1 station /service area	16 stations	16 stations	0	16 stations	16 stations	J
Police Personnel	1 professional /500	358	472	+114	314	371	A
Police Vehicles	1 vehicle /1667 persons	107	418	+311	94	111	A
Police Facilities	1 sq. ft./5 persons	35,804 Sq. ft.	102,230	+66,626 Sq. ft.	31,440	37,100	A
Source of Standard: A. Burchell, Robert W. et.al., <i>Development Impact</i> . Washington, DC: Urban Land Institute, 1994 J. United States Fire Administration, June 1999 L. National Fire Protection Agency, July, 1999 * Entire staffing of Indianapolis Fire Department plus allocated Beech Grove Fire Department							

Public Safety

Standards for fire services and Emergency Medical Services (EMS), as supplied by the United States Fire Administration and the National Fire Protection Agency are not based on population. They are based on time and distance. Staff and equipment need to get to a fire in less than four minutes. This can usually be achieved within a service area with a 1.5-mile radius, although street sizes and pattern and traffic congestion can affect response times.

The Indianapolis Fire Department currently operates fifteen fire stations in Center Township. Stations are organized under four battalions. The City of Beech Grove has one station located in the township. No township fire departments serve any parts of Center Township. The Indianapolis Fire Department and Beech Grove Fire Department operate both EMS and fire services as full-time, paid staff, with

no volunteer positions. All fire personnel maintain a current Emergency Medical Service

certification. The departments have a complement of 43 fire vehicles and 28 EMS vehicles.

The Indianapolis Police Department provides law enforcement for all of Center Township. The Department's five districts serve parts of the township, with various beats contained within each district. The Downtown, East and South District's Headquarters are located inside Center Township. The North District Headquarters is located nearby in Washington Township and the West District Headquarters is located nearby in Wayne Township.

The statistics in the table on Public Safety reflect the allocation of police department staffing by districts. Only the downtown district serves Center Township without also serving parts of adjoining townships. The Marion County Sheriff Department provides only jail and court related services within Center Township. Staffing for the Sheriff's Department reflects an allocation based on Center Township's population.

Other agencies and institutions in Center Township also provide forms of police and security services. These include the State of Indiana's Capitol Police, IUPUI and hospitals. Services offered by these agencies are not tabulated due to their more limited responsibilities.

Other Facility and Service Issues - Social Services in Center Township

Center Township contains a large number of governmental agencies and private charitable and social service facilities. A significant number of public and private agencies are located within the downtown area (regional center). In addition to city, state, county and federal agencies, more than

forty non-profit agencies provide services through facilities located in the regional center.

Many factors influence the location decisions of these agencies. Factors may include the desire for a central location for client populations, access to numerous public transportation routes, affordable office space and easy client referrals between service providers.

Some buildings contain several related social service agencies, such as the English Foundation Building at 615 North Alabama St. Facility planners should recognize the benefits of co-location and convenient access. It is also important to consider that clustering some kinds of services may have negative effects on the stability and revitalization of regional center neighborhoods. Placing social services, whether in an office, clinic or residential setting must be done in a manner sensitive to the need for continued neighborhood investment and residents' safety.

Conclusions

Center Township has been losing population for decades. Many existing public facilities were constructed during periods when the population was greater; resulting in some excess capacity when compared to accepted standards.

Population forecasts cited in this study suggest that population decline may continue for another 10 to 20 years. These scenarios may suggest that certain excess facilities should be closed or consolidated in the face of declining need. Another view is that existing public facilities are essential to current redevelopment of the township and may hasten the township's revival.

Businesses, institutions and individuals make investment and locational decisions based on their assessment of adequate public services and facilities. Certain facilities and services, such as

schools and parks, need to adapt to the changing population composition. The upcoming 2000 United States Census of Population will clarify many questions about Center Township's population trends.

Public agencies must be careful stewards of the resources entrusted to them by local citizens. Agencies should also be cautious about disposing of land and buildings based only on short term trends in population and land use. Certain services, such as fire, police and emergency medical care, are needed for residents and non-residents alike.

Other Center Township Plans

The following studies and plans were adopted before 1994. Plans adopted from 1994 to the present are summarized on Pages 2 to 5 of this report. Some geographic areas have been the subjects of several studies. Many earlier recommendations remain valid when new plans are adopted.

Central Indianapolis Waterfront Concept Plan -1993
Crown Hill - 1981

Forest Manor Subarea - 1980

Garfield Park - Pleasant Run - 1987

Highland Brookside - 1993

Mapleton -Fall Creek – 1991

Near North Fall Creek - 1993

North Meridian Street Corridor - 1982

North Meridian Street Corridor,
Section 6 – 1986

Riverside - 1991

South-Eastside – 1986

West Washington Street Corridor - 1985

Regional Center Plans and Reports

Regional Center Plan 1990-2010

Land Use Potential Reports: Labor Force Issues, Office Development, Recreation and Entertainment and Retail Market Analysis

1987 Regional Center Parking Study

Regional Center 1996 Parking Study

Regional Center Pedestrian Traffic Survey

Township visitors such as shoppers, employees, tourists, students and others expect and demand adequate public services during their visits to the township. Center Township contains the downtown, the IUPUI-Medical Center campus and other land uses that are unique in the central Indiana region. These specialized land uses must be considered for their service requirements along with the needs of the resident population.

2700 Place Project

333 N. Alabama St. & East St. Project

38th and College Project

748 Massachusetts Ave.

Barrington Redevelopment

Belmont Theater

Belmont-Oliver Industrial Park

Chatham Arch Reuse

Circle Center Mall

Citizens

Convention Center Hotel Project

Consolidated Redevelopment Project

Fall Creek Redevelopment Area

Fulton Street

Harding Street Redevelopment Project

Home Ownership TIF Area

Martindale-Brightwood

Monon Corridor Redevelopment Project

NDP 6-1 Area

Near North

Near North Industrial Park Urban Renewal Project

Northwest Redevelopment Project

Oxford Terrace Urban Renewal Area

PK-II Urban Renewal Area

Project "I" Renewal Area

Rural - I70 Area

Saint Joseph Area Reuse Area

Southeast Redevelopment Project Area

Temple-Hillside Area

Union Station Center Urban Renewal Project Area

United Northwest Redevelopment Area

United States Fitness Center

Redevelopment Areas in Center Township

16th & M.L. King/Methodist